

SIR
**ROBERT
SHERLEY,**

**SENT AMBASSADOVR
IN THE NAME OF THE KING
OF PERSIA, TO SIGISMOND THE
third, King of POLAND and SVVBCIA,
and to other Princes of
EVROPE.**

**His Royall entertainement into CRA-
COVIA, the chiefe Citie of POLAND,
with his pretended Comming into
ENGLAND.**

Also,

**The Honourable praises of the same Sir Robert Sherley,
giuen vnto him in that Kingdome, are here
likewise inserted,**



L O N D O N

**Printed by I. WINDET, for John Budge, and are to be
sold at his Shop at the Great South doore of Pauls.**

1609.

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1609.

TO THE WORTHIE
and well experienst Gentleman,
Sir THOMAS SHERLEY,
Sonne to that happy Father, Sir
Thomas Sherley, and Brother to that
Noble Gentleman, Sir Robert.

Worthie Sir,

 He selfe same office of loue and due
prayses which the world put it selfe
into, at your long desired ariuall
in England, fals happily vpon
me to performe the like dutie
toward your worthy Brother, nor
can I recite more Encomiums of
his Actions, then those of your
owne hath rightly and properly challenged to themselues;
Ile speake thus much of you both, and the world shal iudge
it free from flattery, you well may bee owne Brothers in
birth, that are so neere kinne to one another in Actions of
Fame and Honour: so commending you both to eterni-
zing memory of your owne Vertues and Fortunes, I re-
maine an unworthy obseruer of them both.

Your Worships, in his most selected studies,

THOMAS MIDDLETON.

TO THE WORTHIE

and well experienced Gentleman,

SIR THOMAS SHERRLEY,

Comme to that happy Father, Sir

Thomas Sherry, and Brother to that

Noble Gentleman, Sir Robert.

Worthie Sir,

He that is the father of your children

prayer which the world out of his

into, at your long desired arrival

in England, his happy return

me to performe the like duties

comend your worthy Brother, who

can receive more benedictions of

his Actions, than those of your

owne hands rightly and justly

the thanks thereof of the world, his

it were from his Father, you will may be come to others as

birds, that are to be seen to one another in Actions of

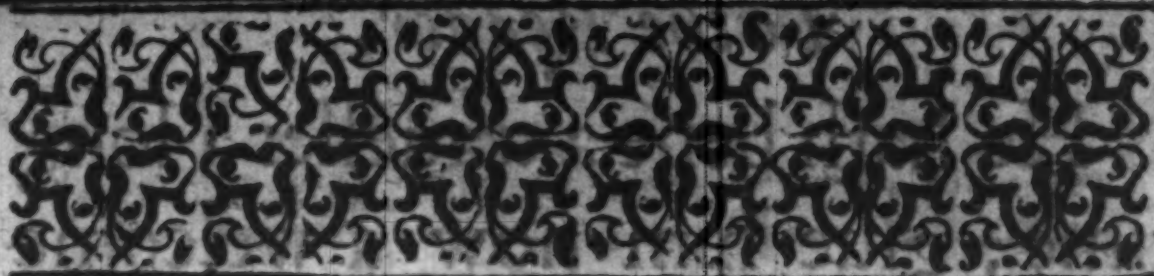
Love and Honour, in understanding you both to claim

kind memory of your Father, and his

shall be as a worthy object to them both.

Your Worships in his most blessed Father,

THOMAS SHERRLEY.



To the Reader.

READER, This Persian Robe, so richly wouen with the prayfes onely of Sir ROBERT SHERLEY (thy Conntriman) comes to thee at a lowe price, though it cost him deere that weares it, to purchase so much fame, as hath made it so excellent. It is now his, for euer, Thine so long as it is his; for euery good man (as I hope thou art) doth participate in the Renowne of those that are good, and vertuous.

He

To the Reader.

He hath bene a traveller a long time, give him now a welcome home; the Armes of his owne Country embracing him, will bee more ioyfull to him, then all those of so many forraine Kingdomes, with which he hath so often bene honoured.

If a man that hath ventured through the world, may deserue thy loue, thou canst not chuse, but bestow as much of it vpon him, as vpon any. Looke vpon him truely, and thou shalt finde a large generall Chronicle of time within adittie Volume: as good as said T.

He comes laden with the Trophies of Warre, and the honors of Peace. The Turke hath felt the sharpnesse of his sword, and against
H the

To the Reader:

the *Turke* is hee now whetting the
swords of Christian PRINCES.
Much more could I speake of him,
but that I should doe wrong to the
common Lawes of ciuilitie, by ta-
king away that Reuerence from
Strangers, whome (from Coun-
tryes afarre off) you shall pre-
sently heare giuing ample
testimonies of his
Noblenesse.

Vale:

B

the V. wks. has now whetting the
swords of Christian P. n. c. a.
Much more could I speak of him,
but that I should do wrong to the
common laws of civility, by ca-
ving away that reverence from
Strangers, whose (from Court
disservice off) you shall pre-
sently hear giving ample
testimonies of his
Nobleness.



Newes from P E R S I A and P O-
L A N D, touching Sir Robert Sherley, being
sent Ambassadour to diuers Princes of E v-
R O P E, fam'd aswell for his Wisedome
and experience, as for his know-
ledge and vnderstanging of
many Tongues.



A best that man can receiue his Birth
but from one place, yet is hee Bozne a
Freeman of all the Cities of the world
The whole earth is his Country, and
he that dwelleth fardest off. is by the
lawes of nature, as neer to him in loue
as his kindred & acquaintance. This

General Charter being giuen by the King of this Vniuer-
sall Crowne, to all Nations, hath caused men from time to
time, (by the vertue of that Wisdedge) to forsake the pla-
ces of their first being, and to travell into other Countries.
The benefits that kingdomes haue gotten by this meanes,
cannot in so small a volume, (as this in hand) bee compre-
hended. Travell is the golden Spine that enricheth the
poorest Country, and filleth the barrenest with abundant
plenty. It is the chaine that at first tyed Kingdomes to-
gether, and the Muscical string that still maintaines them
in Concord, in Leagues and in Unity. The Portugalls
haue hereby Crowned themselves and there Posterity
with garlands of neuer dying honour. The Spaniards
haue

have their names (for this) so deeply ingraven in the Chronicles of Fame, that they can never bee forgotten. The French likewise and the Dutch, have raised their glories to a nobler height, onely by these Adventures. In imitation of all whose labors, or rather in Emulation of all their Fames, our Englishmen have not onely Stept as farre as any of them Al, but gone beyond the most, and the best of them. And not to reckon those men of worth (in this kinde) of our owne Nation, whose voyages and travells (by sea and land) to set down, were able to fill whole volumes, I will onely at this time (not with a loud and shrill trumpet, as they deserve, but as it were vpon an instrument tuned and directed by another) give onely a soft touch at the Praises of this worthy Gentleman (Sir ROBERT SHERLEY) of whose adventures, dangers, & various fortunes, both good and bad, to draw a true picture in the right & lively colors ; would as easily feed mens eyes with gazing admiration, as the large pictured tables of others have filled them with wonder.

Being therefore contented (at this time) to swim but in a shallow streame, of his Fame, thence greater sayles are likely hereafter (and that very shortly) to swell with the true report of his actions, You shall understand that Sir ROBERT SHERLEY, after a long, a chargeable, and a dangerous progresse through most (if not all) the Kingdomes in Europe, receiving entertainment from the Princes of those Dominions, sitting to such a ghastly desire of glorie still more and more burning within him, At the length, he left Europe, and travelled into Asia, receiving noble entertainment at the hands of the King of Persia, In whose Court he so well and so wisely bore himselfe in all his Actions, that the Persian (with much of his love, of which hee tasted most plenteously) heaped on his head many honorable favours.

That common enemy of Christ and Christians, (the Turke)

Turke) lifting vp his sword continually (for the most part) not onely against the Polack, the Hungarian, Bohemian, and other Princes of Christendome, but also thirsting after the rich Empire of Persia, and shewing a mortall hatred to that Kingdome by being ever vp in Armes against it; It was thought fit that (the Persian himselfe confessing and worshipping Christ,) Ayde should bee required at the hands of Christian Princes in the Persians behalfe, against so barbarous, so ambitious and so generall an enemy. Whereupon the honor of such an Embassy, was conferred (by the King of Persia) vpon Sir Robert Sherley, as a man worthy and apt to treat with Christian princes in so weighty a businesse, hee himselfe being a Christian borne, and a gentleman that had Travelled, and by experience knew the conditions, State, and policies of most of their Kingdomes.

First therefore was he employed into Poland, where by Sigmund (the King of Poland and of Suecia) hee was received with great magnificence, and applause both of the Polack himselfe and of his people.

And because it is not fit, that euery Common and popular eare, should stand listening to the private businesse of Princes in a Desaignement, that concernes the Vniuersall State of Christendome, wee will not therefore at this time bee interpreters of the Persians Embassy but rather walke his expected coming who hath in charge to deliuer it by word of mouth himselfe.

In the meane time notwithstanding (for bearing to reckon by the rich presents giuen by the Poland King, to Sir Robert, the honors done to him, by the Polish Lords, and the fauors throwne vpon him by the Common people) You shall bee witnesses onely, to those, (not vnworthy) praises of Him, by which his fame (amongst Schollers by those of the better sort) was lifted vp, at the time of his staying in Poland.

(4)
A fourefold Anagram vpon Sir
Robert Sherleys Name.

ROBERTVS SHERLEIVS.

- 1 *Henz Labor, Tueris Res.*
- 2 *Servus, ast Hero Liber.*
- 3 *Libertas, ero Servus.*
- 4 *Virtus, Labores fere.*

Encomions or Praises, as well vpon the Name, as
the negotiation of Sir ROBERT SHERLEY,
an English Knight, sent Ambassadour from the
King of the *Persians*, to the Princes of *Europe*.

Mercurius, seeing the Embassadour ready to take his
journey, resigneth vnto him his office, as being mes-
senger or Herald to the Gods, according to the fiction of
Poets, and with that office bestoweth the gift of eloquence
vpon him, because he may haue power to perswade the prin-
ces to whom he is sent: and withal, addes a wish, that those
Christian Kings whom he is to sollicite, may not be cold in
ioyning their forces together, but that they may enter into
an honorable, a pious and inviolable league against that
common enemy, the *Turke*.

Mercuries speech.

Thou (O Sherley) being borne an Englishman, art
sent from the Persian Empire to the Kingdomes that
lye

tye in Europe, thy place is full of honour, thy message of
waight: discharge thou therefore boldly those thinges,
which the greate Lord of Persia, commands thee to doe.
It is not chance, that thowes this high office vpon thee, but
a full Synode (or Parliament) of all the Gods, doe appoint
thee to bee their Messenger, to the great Kings of the earth.
For this cause, I that am Heauens winged Messenger,
feeling thee ready to depart, present my selfe thus before thee,
and uttering onely so much, as in the letters of thy name
lyes mystically hidden, and that is this,

Heus Labor, ——— tu Res hoc ore Tueris

Persarum. ———

Exceeding Labor! yet thou art the man, that must
defend the state of the Persians, even by the force of my e-
loquence. Go on therefore, be thou Mercurius in the Courts
of Kings: I giue thee my place; I giue it to thee, that art
more worthy of it then my selfe. O that the princes of Eu-
rope, would knit an indissoluble league together, with thy
Master (the Persian Monarch,) and tye all their sinewes
to one Arme, that a noble Warre may be begotten. Let
Bellona (the goddesse of battailes) breath courage into the
breasts of souldiers; and let no Country bee dishonoured
by bearing men, that haue no hearts to come into the fielde.
O let not that couetous Dragon, which once watched the
golden firmament, sleepe in the holmes of Kings, and
with his poison, infect them with that couetous disease of
hoording vp gold. Cast off (O you Princes) your sensuall
pleasures, and let it bee your Ambition to weare Gar-
lands of Wike, which are the Crownes of Conquerors.
Prefer immortall Fame before all those Dangers, ouer
which you must of necessity passe, be they neuer so intui-
ble in the shew of undertaking, and aspire onely to that life
which shall remaine, when your bodyes are dead. Heauen
(in your doing so) shall smile vpon your enterprises: Hell
shall bee conquered, and that hel-holnde byrde of Maho-
mer

(6)
met bee bitterly confounded. Uniuersall peace shall Crowne
the world, and the Barbarous Turks, feeble the Sinewes
and puissant Arms of Europe.

To the Nations (vnto whome the Ambassadour is
sent, on great and serious affaires, as rightly may
be coniectured.) A desire & wish is made, that all
Kings in Christendome, may entertaine this holy
Warre, with the same courage, constancie and
zeale, that the *Persian* doeth.

Hearken O you Polanders, Italians, French, & you
Germanes; Enrich your Chronicles, with an Act of
a wonder neuer heard of in the world before: For behold,
a Bylttaine, is sent on a royall message, from the King of
the Persians. A Bylttaine is sent, but who is it? Such a
one hee is, as by his name (beeing before Anagramatiz'de)
hee may apparantly be deciphered.

Act Liber, Seruus Hero.

Free-bozne and a seruant onely vnto his Soueraigne.
Hee, euen hee, is sent to you (O you Nations of Eu-
rope,) from the confines of the Persians, bringing along
with him, the name of his Lord, and with that name, the
sound of an Approaching warre.

The destinies begin to promise some great matter: The
God of Battalles (beereupon) speakes cheeresully. God
himselfe prepares the Armour; muster your selues toge-
ther therefore (O you Kings) and with a religious de-
fence, draw your Swords against the *Turkes*.

A

A gratulatorie compendious Speech, to Sir ROBERT SHERLEY, commending both his Vertue, and present Fortune.

O Sherley, thou that art an honour to the Persians, as well as to the Britaines: within whose head dwelleth experience and wisdom, and upon whose tongue eloquence writeth her charmes: whatsoever hee was, that at first durst say that Fortune was Blind and that shee bestowed extraordinary benefits upon unbeleruing men, let him know, that all this while hee hath bin in an error: for Fortune had more eyes then Argus, when shee Crowned this Englishman with so many Persian honors and offices, That Monarch (O thou Renowned Britaine) whose sword is dreadfull to the Thracian Tyrant, makes thee a partner in the cares and burdens of his empyre: for he hath seene, yea he hath euer seene, and found thee constant in execution of all his iust and Royall commandes.

The Empire of the *Persian* is here commended: The Kings and Princes of *Europe* being called to giue witnesse; how much glory the dexteritie of Sir ROBERT SHERLEY, hath added to the *Persian* Monarchie: Vpon which, he appeares to the *Persians* a Gentleman of such merit, as that *England* may very iustly accuse *Persia* of wrong, for detaining him from her.

The same of the *Persian* Empire doth not grow by only in a meane Souldier, for their Cities are full of renowned

renowned and worthy Captains: from the Ancient discipline
and stratagems of warre, are the glories of the Persians
springing up and continue famous. But (O thou honoured
Englishman) thee derived her first principles from thy
practise and knowledge. Farre be my words from the base
servitude of flattery: for within a short time, Kings shall
rise up as witnesses of what I speake. Let thine owne
Country envy the kingdome of Persia for enjoying this
honor, (which by thee is given her) yea, let her challenge
thee to be delivered backe againe as her owne, yet let her
claime be made in such manner, that England and Persia,
may not grow into quarrell about thee, But rather thus
let them both share thee. Let rich Persia enjoy thy presence,
and reckon thee in the number of her Citizens, & bee proud
in the possession of a man, so worthy: Let England glorie
that shee alone, is happy in thy birth, and that she beares
the honor of giving thee thy name. But holdenover, (O
thou, the Disguistis and Luster of two renowned King-
domes) See thou on, in thine intended ambassage, im-
performe these Heavns, which the great Persian thy Lord hath
imposed upon thy Integrity.

The Historie of the Persians here commended: The
Kings and Princes of Persia being called to give
A short Speech uttered as it were by the whole bo-
dy of the Polish Court, to ROBERT SHERR-
LEY Ambassadors from the invincible King of
the Persians.

IT is not thy rich garments Embroidered so thicke
with gold, and woven by Grecian workemen, that
drawen our eyes into admiration by beholding thee: It is
not thy sparkling Jewels, nor thy costly precious stones
that

that adorne thy Robe, which daze our sight. It is not thy
comely crying, nor skilfull managing of that Arabian
courser, upon whose back thou sittest, whilst the proud beast
it selfe, Champs on the glittering bit in disgaime to bee so
curbed, that makes vs to looke after thee, It is not that
victorious Semyter of thine, wherewith thou hast made the
earth drunke so often with so much blood of those, that are
enemies to the Persians, that causeth vs to stand gazing at
thy presence: No it is the beauty of thy minde wherewith
our eyes are enchanted. It is the excellent musicke of thy
tongue, that so ties our eares to thy charmes, Thou being
able to speake and to answere so many severall nations, in
their owne proper languages.

Englands Complaint to Persia for her

SHERLEY.

O Persia! thou glorious kingdome, thou chiefe of Em-
pires; the Palace sometimes where Wisedome
onely kept her Court, the Land that was governed by
none but by wisse men: Yet must I tell thee, and with griefe
dost thou enforce me to tell thee, that against all Law of
Nations, thou robbest me of my subiect. Why should the
right of another be thine? It is Justice for every one to
keepe their owne. But thou makest vp thy gaine by my
losse. Is this Equitie? Is this tollerable? Cease to doe it:
and send home (O Persia) That some of mine to me that
am his mother: for to me onely is he due. But (aye me) the
honors of his owne Country, and the palaces of my King-
dome, are by him (belike) neglected and seeme not worth the
looking on; And though to the eye of the world I may per-
haps appeare beautifull and great, yet in his eye, I seem
no bigger then a small corner of the worlde. I doe enuy thee
therefore

therefore (O Persia) onely for him: yet since I cannot
enjoy him, Fare thou well, O thou my darling, and with
that farewell beare along with thee, the Blesses which I
give thee. I rob Persia, Persia robs not me: My losse is to
mee more honour: for the Persian Empire, borrowes her
brigh:nes from the beames of one of the Sonnes of Eng-
land.

SHERLEY to his native Countrey.

O Thou my Countrey, if I should pay back into thy
hands so much as by bond is due unto thee from me,
I should then lay downe my life at thy fecte. But my
thoughts aime at greater matters, It is not Breath I
would pay thee, but Fame: Take thou from me so much
Honour, as may make mee live for ever. Liberty is the Gole
to which I run, but such a liberty it is, as may free me from
the common basenesse of the multitude, and make me wor-
thy to be respected by the eye of a King.

Serous hero, I am a servant to that greatesse Master, to
whose fecte all the Persians bow and doe reverence: I am
his servant, that I may bee his messenger, and beare the
Treatyes of such a King, to other Kings in Christendome.
I am destin'de out, to deliuer his minde in their owne
languages, to Forraign Princes and to the Monarches of
the earth. Let them therefore come together, and quicke
shall the Turkish fury bee calmed, and being weakened in
her owne strengths, shall bee glad to kneele to the power,
and mercy of others. And thou, (O my Native Countrey),
if thou wouldst bee pleased to knit thy forces in this iust
and vniuersall Warre, to what Dignities mayst thou ad-
uance thy selfe? Whatsoever is dishonourable, hath a base
descention, and licks beneath Hell, But whatsoever is
good

good and honest, lifts up the unblemished brow on high,
and makes it Level with the front of heaven.

The Authors with and request to vertue, that shee
would giue vnto SHERLEY such a fruitfull har-
uest of his Labours, that hauing Conquered the
hardnesse of them, his Name may aspire to the
full height of his desert.

O Vertue! the noblest and boldest guide, thou that gi-
uest to men the due Crowne of Praises, prosper thou
the honoured enterprises of Sherley: But touching those
paths which must leade him to titles of fame and honour,
make them even and certaine before him; He hath no desire
to haue his name eaten out by the rust of idlenesse, no; hee
will neuer unworthily sink beneath his owne proposed for-
tune.

Another of the same Author, touching Sir Robert
Sherley being called as it were by Fate, to ma-
nage the affaires of Foraine Princes.

What is the cause that Sherley hath not all this
while liued in the same Country, that first lent
him breath? This is the reason, a spirit so greate
was not to bee contained within so small a circle, as his
Country. Besides,

He is the child of Fate and highly sings

Of kingly Embassies to none but Kings.

Crownde with these praises as you heare in Poland,

and following the same of his memorable actions to be known, bending his course to other parts of Christendome with the same Royall Embassage of honorable, and Christian confederacie against Mahomet & his Adherents, it shal not bee amisse here to speake of the Kingdome of Persia, where Sir Robert received such honorable entertainment, suitable to his noble Actions, and the vertues of his minde, as also the maners, fashions, rites, and customes, that are and have beene obserued by the Persians; and first, for their Religion whitch they haue obserued of old, doing worship and reuerence in their byright zeale to the Sunne, Moone, Venus, Fire, Earth, Water, and Winds, erecting neyther Altars nor Statues, but in open fields offering their sacrifices, whitch sacrifices were superstitious, and full of idle Ceremonies too tedious to be here rehearsed: For their Kings, the golden line of them is drawn out of one family, that custome amongst the Persians neuer as yet suffered change or alteration, and so seuerer their lawes are in effect, to the punishing of all rebellious treasonable and disobedient people, that whosoever bee that is found repugnant in the least cemeanor to the will and affection of the King, bee is presently reade upon by the Executioners, his head and armes chopt off, and with his detested body thrown into some common field, without eyther grave or burying: And for their palaces & royall mansions, this hath ever beene the constant custome amongst them, that every King hath had his seate Royall erected on some high hill or mountaine, the Bowels of which bee makes his safe Treasurie house, where all his Riches, Jewels, and Tribute monyes are with exceeding carefullie kepte hid and secret; And so much they do detest Sterility and Barrennesse, that from the highest to the lowest they take many wives in marriage, counting the fruitfull propagation of the Empire, the onely happynesse they can rayse to it, and so much they affect humane fruitfulness, that the Kings themselves propound

propound great gifts and rewards. To those that in one
yeare bring forth the greatest harvest of mankinde, from
five yeare olde to foure and twenty the male children prac-
tise to ride greate horses, to throw the vulnerable and In-
evitable dart, to shoote in Arbalists or long Steele bowes,
and all such manly exercises which shames many other
Christian Countries, and may well vpbraide them of effe-
minacie and Lazynesse.

Their vitualls for the most part, by which the common sort of
people are fed & doe live by, are Beorne, and Hedge-peares,
their Bready course and hard, their Drinke the running
Springs, For their Apparrell, the Princes and those that
live in greatest respect amongst them, adorne their bodies
with a Triple robe, and another garment in the fashion of a
cloake hanging downe to their knees, the inward linings all
of white silks & the outward facing like powdered Ermins,
In Sommer for the most part they walke in purple, the win-
ter refuses no coloz, about their temples they weare a great
Circulaire, being a stately ornament high & round with a Cone
at the top, from which descends a rich faire pendant of some
costly embroidered stuffe, as Silke, &c.

Attirde in some of which ordinary Persian habits his Agent
Walker Moore is lately arrived in England, bringing
happy tidings of this famous English Persian, as also of
his comming to England to the exceeding great Joy of his
Native Country, laden with honours through every King-
dome, as the deserving ornaments of his vertue and labour.
And thus, ingenious Reader, have I set down by true and
most credible Information a briefe Epitome of Sir Robert
Sherlyes entertainment into Craconia the chiefe Cittie
of Poland, together with all those severall speeches delive-
red to him by the Schollers of that Countrey, which al-
though they may seeme to the nice eare of our times, not
altogether so pure and polished, as the refined labours of
many english wits, yet therein they staid to expresse both
their fashion and affection to the worthy vertues of Sir
Ro.

Robert, & for a tast of their stile and manner of writing, is
 shal not be amisse, if you cast your eye upon these verses fol-
 lowing, composed by a Scholler worthily reputed in that
 Cuntry, one Andreas Loerachius, & those are they which
 at this I borrow to shew by the honorable praises of our fa-
 mous English Traveller.



Ad illustrissimum & maximimum ingenij
 tum animi virum, Dom. Robertum Sherleum, E-
 quitem Anglum Regis Persarum nomine
 ad Europa PP. legatum.

A Emule Honos Animo Proavis, Lux alta, Britan-
 nae
 Qui gentis pectus non finis ire Decus;
 Non vni dat Cuncta Polus, sed Carmina Apollo,
 Mars vires, Arcas Nuncius Ingenium.
 Hæc cuncta vnus habes, est vis, sunt ora deserta,
 Numina avara aliis, prodiga facta tibi;
 Persia se iacet gemino in te munere, Martis
 Pectore belligeri; Palladis ingenio,
 Tantus honore licet, te Scori haud subtrahe Vena,
 At Venam excedit pondere vatis Amor.
 Inimò Censendum satis est Cecinisse Poetam
 Quod tibi se falsus carmine & ore rudem;
 Parua loquor, ne te venturis subtrahe sacris:
 Ac Fidei, ut Famæ suæ sce parare modum.

FFNS

g, id
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a)